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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

4

Application Number	10/824,741
Filing Date	April 15, 2004
First Named Inventor	John HRYN, et al.
Art Unit	1795
Examiner Name	Arun S. Phasge

Attorney Docket Number

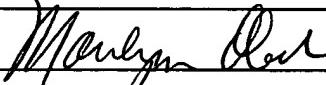
0003-01269

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Applicant's Interview Summary Return Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Remarks		
		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	Cherskov & Flaynik	
Signature		
Printed name	Michael J. Cherskov	
Date	July 28, 2008	Reg. No. 33,664

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PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hrym, et. al.

Application: ELECTRODIALYSIS OPERATION WITH BUFFER SOLUTION

Serial No.: 10/824,741

Filing Date: April 15, 2004

Examiner: Arun S. Phasge

Art Unit: 1795

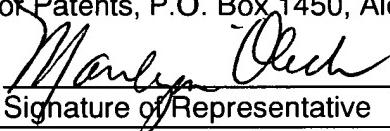
Conf. No.: 7059

Case No.: 0003/01269

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July 28, 2008
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents
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APPLICANTS' INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Sir:

The applicant sincerely appreciates Examiner Phasge's insight provided during the June 24, 2008 morning interview in this matter. Applicant submits that the interview's highlights were reiterated in the Amendment filed later that day. However, Applicant submits herewith a formal Statement, inasmuch as the Examiner's Interview Summary, mailed on July 1, 2008, requested a formal

written reply.

1) Brief Description of Exhibit(s). No exhibits exist.

2) Identification of Claims Discussed. A Draft Amendment was submitted prior to the Interview, said Amendment listing all of the pending claims and the proposed amendments thereto. Modifications to independent claims 1, 9, and 14 were discussed, related to the §103 rejections contained in the January 24, 2008 Official Action.

3) Identification of the Prior Art Discussed. Two patents are cited by the Examiner in the §103 rejection to the claims, specifically Mani (U.S.P. 6,627,016) and Scheder (U.S.P. 3,595,766).

4. Identification of the Principal Proposed Amendments of a Substantive Nature. The discussion of amendments to independent claims 1 and 14 centered around clarifying the existence of a product stream and reciting same. Examiner Phasge also suggested designating treatment of the byproduct moiety, and the Amendment reflects these recitations.

The Amendment was thought to highlight a salient feature of the invention whereby buffer is added to the product stream to neutralize by product acid or byproduct base, thereby facilitating continuous electrodialysis.

5. Brief identification of the General Thrust of the Principal Arguments Present to Examiner. Applicants argued that the selection of buffer results in an ED process with very little change in pH values. Specifically, the selection of buffer depends on the product being made in the acid-loop and/or base-loops of the ED stack. The buffer cation or anion is the feedstock of the targeted product.

The Applicant further reiterated that neither Mani nor Scheder, alone or combined, suggest using buffer whose components become part of the product. Rather, the prior art teaches away from adding buffer to product streams.

6.) General Indication Of Any Other Pertinent Matters: Examiner Phasge requested limiting the independent claims such that the recited method operates within two pH units. The Applicants have done this. As such, this limitation was made part of the amended claims filed on June 24, 2008.

7.) General Results of Interview Outcome: The proposed Amendments as discussed by Examiner Phasge, Drs. Hrynn and Krumdick, and Attorney Cherskov appeared to have removed the claims out from the ambit of the cited art. However, Examiner Phasge reserved the right to a final determination and or further examination.

An earnest attempt has been made hereby to provide a Statement of Substance of the June 24, 2008 Interview. Applicant reiterates that the above-mentioned points were contained in the Amendment filed that same day. A copy of that Amendment is enclosed herewith.

If the Examiner feels that a telephonic interview will facilitate allowance or further expedite prosecution, he is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned, prior to the issuance of another Official Action.

Respectfully submitted,

CHERSKOV & FLAYNIK

By: 

Michael J. Cherskov (33,664)